

3778  
Docket No. HRT-0281 #6

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : S. Boyd et al.

Serial No. : 09/982,503

Art Unit: 3738

Filed : October 19, 2001

Examiner:

For : Devices and Methods for Port-Access Multivessel  
Coronary ARtery Bypass Surgery

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this

information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

☒ In accordance with §1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application (other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d)), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in §1.491, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, no additional fee is required.

☐ In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with ☐ the first or ☐ second After Final Submission, therefore:

☐ Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e)  
(attached); or

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the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with §1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final

Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution and that it is accompanied by one of:

- ☐ Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached); or
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☐ Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

☒ Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith EXCEPT THAT:

- ☐ In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies are not enclosed herewith.
- ☐ If any of the foregoing publications are not available to the Examiner, Applicant will endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request.
- ☒ Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were previously cited by or submitted

to the Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. 09/487,024, filed 1/19/00, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/281,891, filed 7/28/94, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,735,290, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/023,778, filed 2/22/93, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,452,733.

☒ There are no listed references which are not in the English language.

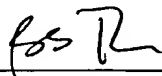
☐ The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows:

☐ Attached are copies of search report(s) from corresponding patent application(s), which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

☐ Attached are the following non-published pending patent applications which may be deemed relevant, which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

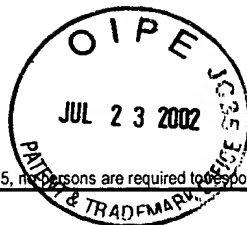
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Respectfully submitted,



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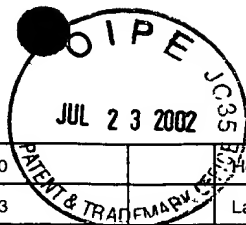
Sheet 1 of 1

Application Number	09/982,503
Filing Date	October 19, 2001
First Named Inventor	S. Boyd et al.
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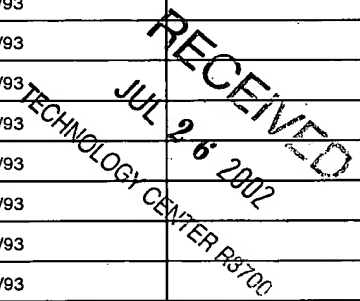
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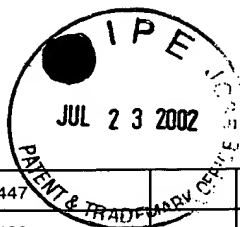
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		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
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		5,133,735		Slater et al.	7/92	

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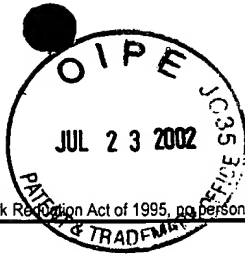
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		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	KindCode <sup>5</sup>				
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		WO	93/20741			10/93		
		WO	95/08364		Stanford Surgical Technologies, Inc.	3/30/95		
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Sheet 1 of 1

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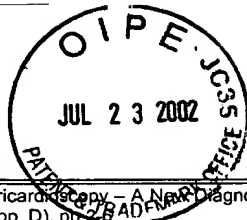
**OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner's Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITOL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>2</sup>
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered

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